



Assemblymember **FELIPE FUENTES**

News Release



For Immediate Release: May 28, 2008

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Fuentes Bill Passes out of the Assembly Supporting 2010 Census Outreach

SACRAMENTO— Assemblymember Felipe Fuentes (D- Sylmar) won approval of a resolution urging the Governor of California to begin the process of developing a work plan for the next 2010 Census outreach effort and determining if resources need to be budgeted for 2009 and 2010 to promote the Census participation. The resolution now heads to the Senate.

“We need an accurate count of our state's population in the upcoming 2010 Census to ensure California obtains its fair share of federal funding and congressional representation.” said Assemblymember Fuentes.

The accuracy of Census data is critical for the effective allocation of government funding for schools, hospitals and other vital social programs. According to the California Department of Finance over 70 federal programs, utilize this data in their distribution formulas. “California needs to start planning early,” said Fuentes. “Time is needed to develop and implement a statewide Complete Count Campaign that will improve our undercount.”

Historically, California has experienced detrimental undercounts for various reasons including lack of public awareness, limited outreach, and the challenges in reaching such a diverse and mobile population. The U.S. Census Monitoring Board reports that over 500,000 Californians were not counted in 2000 resulting in a \$1.5 billion loss.

Fuentes, chair of the Assembly Select Committee on the 2010 Census, held an informational hearing on April 4, 2008 in Downtown Los Angeles and made recommendations on future campaign efforts.

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